

such a course could be adopted without prejudice to the safety and well-being of the community, while at the same time reserving to the Governor in Council the power of enforcing the carrying of night passes in case of emergency. This Ordinance was in force during almost the whole of the past year, and the Chinese have been allowed to go abroad at night without passes. The Captain Superintendent of Police reports that the new Ordinance has not led to that increase of crime which was anticipated in certain quarters.

THE FRENCH MAIL.
The M. M. steamer *Océania*, with the French mail of the 20th May, arrived yesterday. The following telegrams are from Ceylon and India papers:—
WAR ITEMS.
London, 20th May.
The British steamer *Recluse*, laden with coal, has been captured by the American warship *Albatross* off the coast of Cuba. The British Consul protested against the seizure on the ground of the steamer not being included in the blockade.

The *Recluse* is an iron screw steamer of 2,200 tons gross and 1,250 tons net register, owned by the *Recluse* Steamship Company, Limited, of Ceylon. She was built in 1885 by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Ltd., of Newcastle.

A despatch from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, states that a squadron of four ships under Admiral Surcouf (Hollan) commenced a fierce bombardment of the Forts and Harbour of Santiago de Cuba yesterday afternoon. The Navy Department at Washington, however, has received no confirmation of this news.

The *New York World* publishes a telegram stating that two Spanish torpedo vessels made a desperate but unsuccessful attempt about midnight on Sunday, to destroy the American vessels now employed in blockading the port. A severe gunnery crisis has arisen in Spain. The Cortes have passed a bill prohibiting the export of coal or ungued silver.

Official despatches received at Madrid confirm the news received from Port-au-Prince of the American attack on Santiago. The Spanish Admiral Schuler began the bombardment of the forts. The Spanish Admiral Cervera arrived at the entrance to the harbour and replied to the American attack on Santiago. The Spanish Admiral Schuler began the bombardment of the forts. The Spanish Admiral Cervera arrived at the entrance to the harbour and replied to the American attack on Santiago.

Spain is arranging for an internal loan of one hundred million pesetas.
London, 20th June.
According to a telegram from New York, the American squadron withdrew after attacking Santiago, but has not returned, and a fresh bombardment is expected.

Despatches from Havana received both at New York and Madrid state that the Spanish fleet was the only Spanish vessel at Santiago during Tuesday's bombardment, and that the other ships of Admiral Cervera's squadron were not there during the attack.

The capture of silver in Spain has been provoked by a run upon the Bank of Spain for the exchange of bank-notes into specie. If this demand continues, it is anticipated that the Bank will be unable to meet the demand.

It is explained in New York that Admiral Schuler's sole object in bombarding Santiago on Tuesday was to prevent the erection of fortifications at the entrance to the harbour, and when the new defences were destroyed, he expected to enter with his squadron. There was no question of being repulsed.

The latest report says that Admiral Cervera is attacking Santiago from land and sea, and that a bloody battle is proceeding.
Admiral Schuler's report that there is no reason to believe that Admiral Cervera is attacking Santiago from land and sea, and that a bloody battle is proceeding.

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SETTLEMENT EXTENSION AT SHANGHAI.
In the last Municipal Report there appeared under the above heading a letter written to the Mayor of Shanghai, Mr. J. H. Wilson, by the Consul, Dr. Staubeck, recommending the extension of the limits of the Foreign Settlement.

The Diplomatic Body have themselves, if they ever do move themselves at all, been surprised to learn from the latest Municipal Council Report that up to the 20th of May, 1898, they had been recommending the extension of the limits of the Foreign Settlement.

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